

A Full
DISCOVERY
Of the First
PRESBYTERIAN
Sham-Plot,
OR A
LETTER
From one in L O N D O N,
TO A
Person of Quality in the Country.

By Andrew Parranton.

L O N D O N:
Printed for Francis Smith, at the Elephant and Castle
in Cornhill, near the Royal Exchange. 1681.

DISCOVERY

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LETTER

FROM ONE IN LONDON

TO A

Person of Quality in the Country.

By Andrew Paterson.

LONDON:

Printed for Francis Smith, at the Elephant and Castle
in Cornhill, near the Royal Exchange. 1781.

A Full Discovery of the first Presbyterian Sham-Plot, &c.

Honoured S. R,

YOU seem to be much concern'd (as you well may) at the present state of Affairs amongst us; and to wonder that the Scene should be so suddenly chang'd, and the Popish Plot be turn'd into a Protestant and Presbyterian Plot. This Riddle, no doubt, astonisheth many others as well as your self; the Errand therefore of these Lines is to attempt the solving of it.

Two things I shall premise, to which I promise my self I shall have your and every sober Man's Concession. The first is, That the Papists have long designed the subversion of the Protestant Religion in this Kingdom: They look upon England as the great Bulwark of that which they call the Northern Heresy; as that *Roman* of old resolv'd it into a *Maxime*, that *Carthage* must be destroyed, so the *Romanists* of late, have universally agreed that England must be ruin'd, or restor'd to the Communion of the Church of Rome. I could easily recount the several efforts they made in order herunto, in the Reign of Q. *Elizabeth* R. *James* and K. *Charles* the First, as also during the *Interregnum*; but this would swell my Letter, and make it too Voluminous: I shall only therefore consider the Methods they have meditated for the bringing of this about since the Restauration of his Majesty that now is, and some of these you will find in what follows. A second thing I take for granted is this, That the Papists have little hope to enslave this Nation, and bring it to their Lure, so long as it is compacted and united together: Great Britain's Scituation and Union together make it impregnable. But *Machiavel's* Aphorism, Divide and Rule, is well known to the Jesuits: Discord therefore is the great thing they have endeavoured amongst us, especially in matters of Religion: A Kingdom is easily set on Fire by a Coal from the Altar: how successful they have been in this Essay for these twenty years past, hath been both the Observation and Lamentation of many.

The King at his first entrance (to his praise be it spoken) took a prudent course to obviate this mischief, he first passed an Act of Oblivion and Indemnity, wherein he conjured all his Subjects to follow his Example, in forbearing and forgiving one another.

After this he issu'd out his gracious Declaration touching Ecclesiastical Affairs, which was so full of Concessions and Condescensions, that the Ministers about *London* presented him with a gratulatory Address; yea, the House of Commons gave him hearty Thanks for it: and had they past that Declaration into an Act of Parliament, it had probably cemented, tho' not every individual Person, yet the greatest part by far of all the Protestants throughout the Nation. But some, both of the Clergy and Laity, that bore the greatest sway rejected it, and to His Majesty's good and peaceable Intentions prov'd Abusive. These Men (by whose Instigations you may imagine) instead of an Act of Union, resolve upon an Act of Uniformity, which they could not but know would prove the greatest Bone of Contention that ever was in the Nation: And some of the leading Church-Men were heard to say, they would have an Act so fram'd, as should reach every Puritan in the Kingdom: and if they thought any of them would so stretch their Consciences as to be comprehended in it, they would insert yet other Conditions and Subscriptions so as that they should have no benefit by it. But the King and Parliament (they fear'd) were not yet fully prepar'd for the passing of such an Act: thereupon a contrivement is set on foot to make a Presbyterian Plot. And this was the first of that nature which they took in hand. And because it never was taken notice of by some, and forgotten by others, I shall therefore set it down at large; which I can the better do because I was a great sufferer therein, and what here late, if occasion be, I can prove by Letters, and many living Witnesses.

This Sham-Plot was lay'd in about 14 Counties of England. But I shall write principally of that part of it which was executed in *Worcestershire*, the Month of *November*, in the year 1661. Several Letters were drawn up and delivered by Sir *John P.* to one *Richard N.* — his Neighbour, to carry to one *Cole* of *Merry* about 4 Miles from *Worcester*, who is now living. This *Cole*, according to instructions delivereth a Basket of Letters to one — *Churton* of *Wichinford*, who also is, or lately

Murder of *Worcester*, and still alive, who hath often said, that now instant he smelt the Design. The Officer, with his Party, was brought by *Harry Cowell*, *Mr. Torranton's* Servant, to the House of *Mr. Mitchell*; where finding the said *Torranton*, the Officer told him, He was his Prisoner, and must go along with him to *Worcester*; and about ten a Clock the same day they all entered the City, where all the Trained Bands of the County were up in Arms. The same day several other Persons were secured, as *Mr. Ambrose Sperry* Minister of *Martly*, near which place the Sham-Packet was pretended to be found. *Mr. Henry Osland* Minister of *Bewdly*; *Mr. Edward Osland* of the *Rocky*; *Dr. Jackson* of *Kedminster*; *Mr. Moore* Minister of *Worcester*; *Mr. Bryan* Minister of *Old Swinford*; Captain *Wells*, *Mr. Henry Baldwin*, *Mr. George Wilson*, *Mr. John Piers*, *Mr. McHugh*, all four of *Worcester*; with some scores more, which I forbear mention, all which Persons were disposed of into several Prisons or Places of confinement, so that they could not speak one with another, having Sentinels always standing at their several Doors. Amongst the common People there was a great noise of a horrid Plot, a Presbyterian Plot, and they were so confirm'd in the belief of it, that the several Prisoners, as they marched with their Guards through the Streets, were greatly reviled and affronted.

All things continued in this posture for the space of ten days; after which time the Trained Bands would continue no longer, they were grown a little sensible of the Sham. And upon their departure, the Deputy Lieutenants, out of their great clemency, discharged all the Prisoners then in custody, except *Dr. Jackson*, *Mr. Sperry*, *Mr. Henry* and *Mr. Edmund Osland*, *Capt. Wells*, and *Torranton*; only they must pay their Fees, and find good Security, not to go five miles from their Habitations, without leave first obtained from the Lord Lieutenant, or two Deputy Lieutenants, to appear when they were sent for, and in the mean time, to keep all the King's Laws, Ecclesiastical and Civil. This done, *Mr. Sperry*, *Dr. Jackson*, the two *Oslands*, and *Mr. Torranton*, were ordered to be kept close Prisoners in several Chambers of the *George Inn* in *Worcester*; so that no Person whatsoever must come or speak to either of them but in the presence of the Marshal. The Trained Bands being gone, as was said before, to their several Homes, care was taken for the securing of these Criminals, by the dignified Clergy of *Worcester*, together with some of the fittest Clergy-men of the County, who provided about 60 Foot Soldiers, which

Cap. Wells
Irvington
at Bednal-
green.
Mr. Piers
now from
my house
Smithfield

Fasbuler
Marshal.

which they arm'd, and paid, as some of them said, with double pay; which Souldiers were to attend, as Sentinels, in their turns, upon each of the Prisoners, and the rest to keep a Court of Guard in the Town-Hall of Worcester. There were commonly call'd the *Church Band*; and they had for their Captain, one Mr. *William Sheldon* of *Stoke Prior*, who hath, of a long time, as it is said, belong'd to the Rules in *Southwark*.

I can't omit the acquainting you with one renowned Act of Chivalry, that was done in this Church-Court-Guard. It hapned that there came to Worcester a poor old Man, to enquire after the Welfare of Mr. *Henry Ofsand* his Minister, and speaking with one of these Souldiers, the Souldier liberally charg'd Mr. *Ofsand* with being a Traitor, a Rebel, a Plotter against the Government, with some other hard Names; he stoutly defended his Minister, and said he was an honest peaceable Man, and he could never believe he was concerned in any Treason, or Plot against the Government. The Church-Militant-Man in great Wrath laid hold of his poor old Zealot, and carried him to the Court of Guard, - he that then presided in that Court-Martial was also a Church-Officer, and no meaner Man than an Apparitor; he commanded the old Man to be tr'd Neck and Heels together, charg'd him with having a Hand in this Presbyterian Plot, and threaten'd him with severe blows unless he would make a Confession. The old Man bore all this with great Patience, answering him never a Word, which so enrag'd this Man in Authority, that he put lighted Matches betwixt his Fingers, and burnt them to the very Bone, and all this was done to force a Confession from him of a Presbyterian Plot. The Name of the Person thus tormented is *Roger Hilditch of Bewdley*, who (though I have heard to the contrary) is still alive, and carrieth about him the mangled Skin, which was caus'd by those burning Matches betwixt his Fingers; and so are many others alive, which saw him in his Misery, and contributed their help to the healing of his Hands. Now if so small an Officer of the Church as an Apparitor, durst be so hardy as to act such a piece of Barbarity, contrary to all Law and Conscience, what may we fear and expect from those of a greater Figure, if once they come to have Power in their Hands? But this is a digression.

This feigned Plot was not only laid in *Worcestershire*, but in other Shires and Counties of *England*, as I hinted before; I could fill many Sheets of Paper, if I pleas'd, with Particulars: But give me leave to inform you only of some Passages in *Oxfordshire* which respect to
this

July, Mar-
tin, Brew-
ery Old-
street.

this Plot, which fell out about the same time. There dwelt in Oxford one Mr. Matthew Martin, who was then Town-Clark there; he is now a Brewer in London, and in good Reputation both for Estate and Integrity. There came one Hytting to his House in Oxford, a Stranger with a Letter, who had no sooner delivered it, but he withdrew and went his way: when Mr. Martin had open'd it and a little considered the Contents, he took a prudent course to carry it to the Mayor, as you'll hear by and by, and to do it immediately; for had he carry'd a Night or an Hour, it might have been found about him, and then Oxford had quickly been as full, or fuller, of Plotters and Prisoners than Worcester: The Copy of this memorable Letter I here insert word for word.

Mr. Martin,
I pray will you warn all these Men to be all in their Arms, upon Wednesday next in the Night; you know already where they must meet. There will come into Oxford two hundred Men all in their Arms, you know who doth Command them. Dr. Greenwood has sent to Mr. Combes, the Barber, to get his Party of Scholars ready that night; and I have sent to Mr. Hickman to get his Men ready at the same time; and Dr. Owen has sent to Mr. Podge to get his Men ready at the same time; and Dr. Gamun has sent to Mr. Duke the Barber, to get his Men ready at the same time; and I have sent to Mr. Cornish to get his ready at the same time; and I have sent to Dr. Connaught to get his Men ready; and all the Scholars are to meet in Mr. Rogers Garden. And pray send the Money for the Gun, for I intend to be there my self; and I pray give the Doctor here two pounds out of the Stock; and I pray remember me to the Men whom the Five Counties are to rise that Night without fail. I have writt no more to you. The Word is, God is the Word, and pray tell them all this.

This strange Plot was not only laid in Worcester, but in other Shires and Counties of England, as I hinted before; I could fill many sheets of Paper with Particulars; but give me leave to inform you only of some passages in Worcester which related to

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In this Letter was a List of the Persons Names, he was to warn,
and it is as followeth.

Mr. Wiker	Mr. Daves	Mr. Gelman	Mr. Adams
Mr. Langly	Mr. Drinock	Mr. Timmons	Mr. Adams
Mr. Cave	Mr. Berry	Mr. Lark	Mr. Andrews
Mr. White	Mr. King	Mr. Handy	Mr. Foye
Mr. Lane	Mr. Carter	Mr. Newman	Mr. Jennings
Mr. Williams	Mr. Wise	Mr. Newman	Mr. Langly
Mr. Fiffill	Mr. Siper	Mr. Nixson	Mr. Langly
Mr. Townsend	Mr. Quelch	Mr. Nixson	Mr. Phillips
Mr. Pitman	Mr. Tomas	Mr. Fulke	Mr. Porter
Mr. Burrows	Mr. Barnes	Mr. Falker	Mr. Alworth
Mr. Pawling	Mr. Fiffeld	Mr. Adkins	Mr. Millar
Mr. Walker	Mr. Campion	Mr. Adkins	Mr. Prince
Mr. Williams	Mr. Lloyd	Mr. Nichols	Mr. Cave
Mr. Jennings	Mr. Dodwall	Mr. Nichols	Mr. Tongue
Mr. Short	Mr. Nixson	Mr. Nichols	Mr. Tongue
Mr. Griffin	Mr. Spar	Mr. Bowel	Mr. Tongue
Mr. Newman	Mr. Spensar	Mr. Adkins	Mr. Achman
Mr. Quelch	Mr. Hodgkins	Mr. Houghton	Mr. Winkeil
Mr. Phillips	Mr. Sheen	Mr. Houghton	Mr. Bunch
Mr. Phillips	Mr. Bowel	Mr. Green	Mr. Digbee
Mr. Bank	Mr. Seal	Mr. Wiance	Mr. Fifeld
Mr. Prince	Mr. Painter	Mr. Luing	Mr. Fifeld
Mr. Tindall	Mr. Rogers	Mr. Ryland	Mr. Adkins
Mr. Tindall	Mr. Painter	Mr. Nixson	Mr. Bro
Mr. Carter	Mr. Rogers	Mr. Bett	Mr. Tredwell
Mr. Carter	Mr. Duke	Mr. Stinson	Mr. Bland
Mr. Sadler	Mr. Asting	Mr. Foge	
Mr. Weller	Mr. Archman	Mr. Humbes	
Mr. Edwards			

The Mayor of Oxford immediately dispatcheth a Messenger, with
an account of these transactions to the Lord Falkland, who was then
a Member of Parliament; and I think, Lord Lieutenant of the County:
the Copy of the Mayor's Letter, I think meet also to be here
inserted.

My Lord,

I Do not love to give your Lordship any unnecessary trouble, yet in regard, I perceive that by occasion of a Letter left with Mr. Martin our Town-Clark, on Monday night last, there is a great noise made as if there were an intended rising, and meeting of armed Men in this City this last Night, which I thought might possibly come to your Lordships Ear: I thought it therefore my duty for the preventing of misreports (the first discovery of it being made to my self) to give your Lordship this true and full account of the whole matter: On Monday night last, about eight or nine of the Clock there comes a young Man to the Town-Clark's House, and desiring to speak with him, delivers him a Letter, which he said one gave him on the Road between Tettsworth and Oxford, the Town-Clark desir'd him to stay till he looked from whence it came; the young Man pretended great haste, and while he turned to the Candle to open the Letter, the young Man slipped out of his Doors, The Town-Clark no sooner read the two first Lines of it, but said, Somebody had design'd evil towards him; and while he read on his Letter, called for his Man and a Lanthorn, and so soon as it came, went to Captain Griffins to shew him what he received: not finding him at home, he repaired to me; told me how the Letter was left with him (shewing it to me) desiring me to send to seek out Captain Griffin, that he might see the Contents of it: which accordingly I did, and he coming to me, we together perused the Letter, and the List of Names inclosed: and considering them both with the Circumstances, we presum'd it to be at the worst, but a design to try or to intrap the Town-Clark; we could not but commend his discretion in the so timely a Discovery, for the clearing of himself. I have inclosed a Copy of the Letter in such English as it is written, and a Copy of the List of Names, and because divers of them may be unknown to your Lordship, I take leave to tell you that some of them bear Arms in your Lordship's Company of Foot; others of them are Persons of known Fidelity to his Majesty, and far from what this strange Letter would suppose: so there is a mixture also of some others with them. The Town-Clark hath made proof of the manner of his receiving the Letter, and his immediate Discovery, which I hope will acquit him in your Lordship's Judgment as it doth in ours. My Lord, I was in my self fully perswaded, that there is noising of such weight in this business, as that it was worthy giving your Lordship any particular account of it: Yet upon further thoughts, I conceiv'd

it safer to err by overdoing, than to adventure on your Lordship's censure for coming short of my Duty: If I have made the Relation too tedious to your Lordship, I humbly crave and hope for Pardon: For I am weary of

My Lord,

Your Lordship's weobm

Most Humble and

Faithful Servant.

A like Letter and Account was also sent to the Recorder of Oxford, one of their Members in Parliament, who immediately shewed it to one of the Secretaries: And thus this pretty Project miscarried in Oxford, through the Providence of God, and the prudent Management of the Discoverers, to the great regret (no doubt) of those who had cunningly enough contriv'd it. I can't learn they made any further progress in it: save only that two Deputy-Lieutenants sent next day for Mr. Martin, and threatened at first to commit him to Custody, but by and by they dismiss'd him, with this Injunction, Not to go out of the City within fourteen days, without special License. And that very night came into the Town many of the Militia, who kept Guard for two days in the City.

'Tis high time now that I return to Worcester, and give you an account of the forementioned Plotters, in close Confinement there. Dr. Jackson, by the assistance of Sir R. C. gets his Enlargement: Sparry, and one of the Oflands, moved, that they might be bailed, or brought to Trial, but could obtain neither. Tarranton, and the other Oflands, were altogether passive and silent, waiting to see what issue God, in his Providence would put to these arbitrary and extrajudicial Proceedings: and it was not long ere they were strangely delivered: The manner was thus: On the 2d of April, 1662, the Person that was employed (as I have shewed you before) to carry the Pacquet of Sham-Letters from Sir J. P. to one Cole of Marly, acquaints his Brother how he came by the said Pacquet: His Brother, immediately upon this Discovery, repairs to Mrs. Tarranton, and informs her of it: She went to Worcester, and prevails with the Marshal's Maid to deliver a Paper to her Husband, where

The George
in the
High-
Street.

in was a Relation of the whole Matter. This being done, Mr. Tarranton having perused this Paper, and being thereby let in to the knowledge of this malicious Design, he ordered six Actions to be immediately entred against some of those that brought him to Prison. And the next day, (being *Saturday*) in the time of high Market, he took two Bed-staffs in his hands, and broke all the Windows in the Chamber where he was confin'd, and which look'd towards the Street: Upon which the Town was in an Uproar, and a Multitude of People crouded before the Chamber, in the broad Street, to know what the Matter was. He told them, how he and others were maliciously and wrongfully imprison'd, that he could give an account of the Contrivance of this Plot, and who were the Contrivers of it. On the Wednesday following, the Lord Lieutenant, and six of his Deputies, came to the Town, and sent one *Faulk Fiber* (an Officer of theirs) to Mr. Tarranton, to know the reason of his misbehaving himself in the place of his Confinement: He sent them word, He did it on purpose, that he might be brought the sooner before them, to make a discovery of the Presbyterian Plot, which was so much talk'd of, the which he was ready and willing to do. After some Debate between the Lord Lieutenant and his Deputies about this Matter, it was at last resolved, that Tarranton should be brought before them; which was done. There he offer'd to discover to them the whole Plot, how it was laid, and by whom, and for what ends: He desired that the Doors might be set open, for he had many Friends and Witnesses without: He pray'd also, that he might have Pen, Ink, and Paper, and he would write down the whole Matter, for Words might be wrested to other Intents than they are spoken. This was a while debated, but in Reason it could not be denied; and Mr. Tarranton no sooner began to write, but the Lord Lieutenant, and Sir J. P. left the Room, and went down the Back-Stairs, and after followed the rest of the Deputy-Lieutenants: only Esq; *Bumby* of *Holt* stay'd behind. He (it seems) was no way privy to this Design, and told Mr. Tarranton, that he was sorry with all his Heart to see such things practis'd, to the disturbance of honest Men, and the dishonour of the Government. The Enemy having thus fairly quitted the Field, Mr. Tarranton demanded of the Marshal, what he had further now to say to him: The Marshal only made it his Request, that he would not trouble him for holding him so long in restraint, forasmuch as he was a poor Man, and had many Children

then, and did only follow the Orders of his Superiors in what he had done: Mr. *Tarranton* told him, he did freely forgive him.

These dangerous Plotters being now at liberty, they depart every Man to his home, and were never prosecuted, or further question'd about this Matter. There was no need of that, for the Contrivers had now obtained their End, which was, To possess the King and Parliament, that it was absolutely necessary to make some severe Act against this restless Sort of Men, who not contented with the King's gracious Pardon, were always plotting to disturb the Government. Accordingly, when the Parliament met together, on the 20th of November, 1661. (to which time they were Adjourned) the King makes a Speech to them, wherein are these Words:

'My Lords and Gentlemen, I am sorry to find that the general Temper and Affections of the Nation are not so well compos'd as I hoped they would have been, after so signal Blessings of God Almighty upon us all, and after so great Indulgence and Condescensions from me towards all Interests. There are many wicked Instruments still, as active as ever, who labour night and day to disturb the Publick Peace, and to make all People jealous of each other. It will be worthy of your Care and Vigilance, to provide proper Remedies for Diseases of that kind; and if you find new Diseases, you must study new Remedies. Let us not be discouraged; if we help one another, we shall with God's Blessing master all our Difficulties. Those which concern Matters of Religion, I confess to you, are too hard for me; and therefore I do recommend them to your Care and Deliberation, which can best provide for them. I shall not need to recommend, or put you in mind of the good Correspondence that ought to be kept between you for the Good of your selves and me, and the whole Kingdom; and I may tell you, it is necessary for us all. You will find, whoever doth not love me, doth not love you; and they who have no reverence for you, have little kindness for me.

Thus far his Majesty proceeded, and from this last Passage of his it may be understood, that they are none of the King's Friends, nor are they of his mind, who in Words or Writing do cast Contempt on the Parliament. No sooner was the Parliament in their Seats, but Sir *J. P.* one of the Knights for *Worcestershire*, with open mouth, informs them of a dangerous Presbyterian Plot that was on foot, and that many of the chief Conspirators were now in Prison

Prison at *Worcester*. The like Information was given by some of their Members, that serv'd for *Oxfordshire*, *Hertfordshire*, *Staffordshire*, and other Places. Yea, this was the general Vogue, as may appear by the printed Pamphlets of those Times. Hereupon a Bill of Uniformity in the Church is excogitated, and carried on in the Parliament, and pass'd that Session. Few durst be so hardy now, as to make opposition against it, tho I am inform'd it was carried at last but by two or three Votes, but of that I am not certain. However, out it comes, and above two thousand Ministers are ejected upon it, which caused the greatest Division that ever was in a Kingdom, and was the Foundation of all those Miseries we have since felt or feared. Here the Jesuit (who stood behind the Curtain) gained his Point, and the unthinking Episcopal Man was the Cat's Foot that he made use of; so zealous were the Prelatical Clergy in promoting this Bill, that they spared for no Pains or Cost to effect it.

I could wish it were a little enquired into, what Leases the Dean and Chaplain of *Westminster*, granted of the Mannour of *A.* betwixt the 8th of May, and the 20th of November, 1661. unto any Person or Persons, that may be justly suspected to have a hand in contriving or carrying on the afore-mentioned Sham-Plot. Also that the like Enquiry might be made of the Grants of the Dean and Chapter of *Worcester*, about the same time, and that it may be made appear in whose Name such Leases were taken, and what they paid for them.

I have done with the first part of this Presbyterian Sham-Plot, when I have added a Passage or two more concerning Mr. *Tarranton*. As soon as he was discharged (as before) he goes up to *London*, and prevails with the Lord of *Bristol*, to acquaint the King with the great Wrong he had received, and with the wicked Contrivance of some of his Ministers by Sham-Plots, to divide the King from his People, and his People from one another. Hereupon an order of Council was directed to the the Deputy Lieutenants of *Worcestershire*, that were then in and about *London*, to appear before the Council, and to give an account of this matter. They seem'd to clear themselves from being concern'd therein, and desired such as were in the Country might be consulted; the next post they inform their Brethren in the Country, how Matters stood before the Council, &c. that the Lord of *Bristol* did patronize Mr. *Tarranton*, upon this Sir J. W. one of the Deputy Lieutenants, hastens up to *London*, and brings with

with him one *Hales** (an Attorney, his Kinsman and Tenant.) Which *Hales*, with the Constable of *St Mary Overies*, and one *Halborne* a Water-man (now living in *Pepper-Ally* in *Southwark*) arrested Mr. *Tarranton* (when he was bowling in *Winchester-Park*) for High Treason, and being farther assisted by some of the Horse Guards then in *Southwark*, conveyed the said *Tarranton* in *Halborne's* Boat to *White-Hall*; where he was that Night in Custody, but on the Morrow, the Earl of *Bristol* sent the Kings Privy-Seal to a Friend of Mr. *Tarranton's*, who brought it to him, wherein it was declared, that it was the King's Pleasure he should travel where he listed, and not be molested by any Person whatsoever, without a special Warrant from the King. A little after Sir *Kenelm Digby* (Chancellor to the Queen-Mother) sends for Mr. *Tarranton*, and was very earnest to know from him the bottom of this pretended Plot. He relates the whole matter from the beginning to the end to Sir *Kenelm Digby*, upon which Sir *Kenelm* produced two Letters from *Paris*, signifying, that they were of Opinion in *France*, that we in *England* were taking one another by the Throat again, which inclined that King to joyn with the *Dutch* against the *English*, which after a little time came to pass. These two Letters are to be seen, as being lodged in a safe Hand, after the death of Sir *Kenelm* by his Executor. Mr. *Tarranton* seeing how Matters went in *London*, resolved to return again into the Country, where he prosecuted Major *Wild*, and others for imprisoning of him wrongfully, but within six Months after a Design is laid by some of the Criminals in the former Sham-Plot, to suborn Persons to swear against him, that he had spoken Treasonable Words against the King and Government, the Witnesses were one *Dainty*, (a Mountebank, formerly an Apothecary in *Darby*) who afterwards acknowledged that he had 5 *l.* for his pains; the other Witness liv'd in *Wales*, and went by two Names. This was done at the Assizes in *Worcester*; the Bill being found by the Grand Jury, Mr. *Tarranton* put himself upon his Trial, and tho he did not except against any one of his Jury, yet upon a full hearing of the Case they presently acquitted him, which was a great Disappointment to the designing Gentlemen. The Clarke the of Peace (Mr. *Parker*) and the Officers belonging to the Ecclesiastical Court, were not a little disgusted; for now the Sham-Plot was discover'd, which had brought a great deal of Grist to their Mills, for tho the Innocent Papists were conniv'd at, the turbulent Fanaticks were punish'd by whole-sale, both in the Civil and Ecclesiastical Court.

* Now living in
Tombury.

Twisden
then Judge.

P O S T

POSTSCRIPT.

SIR, I know you did expect from me, that I should have given you an Account of the particulars of the several Transactions as to the Shamplot, which was acted in *Warwick, Gloucester, Hereford, Salop, Stafford, Cheshire, and Lancashire*, both as to the Persons imprisoned, the day when, and by whom, and how it was managed by the Plotters, but I must beg your Excuse: for that Matter, and all its wicked Intents, and what Evil it hath been the occasion of propagating in this Nation, I understand is ready for the Press, being faithfully collected by several Persons who were great Sufferers in that Affair.

FINIS.
